MR. K. GEORGE: No.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Are the Government subscribing to that paper?

MR. K. GEORGE: I claim notice.

MR. KATTIYATTU SIVARAMA PANICKAR: My I know whether the Trade Agent at Bombay has found out new markets for Travancore products?

MR K. GEORGE: I claim notice.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): May I know whether the Government are maintaining a publicity bureau in the Huzur Secretariat?

MR. K. GEORGE: There is a Publicity Officer attached to the Secretariat.

MR. P. PADMANBHAN TAMPI: May I know the object of maintaining such an officer?

PRESIDENT: This is not the time for such a thorough dissection of the Publicity Officer or the publicity bureau. Time may come for it.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI (*Quilon* cum *Karunagapalli*): സിലോൺ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പ്രചരണജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നതായിട്ടറിയാമോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: About what? The question must be more explicit.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI: നാളികേരത്തിനു മാർക്കറ്റ് കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ സിലോൺ ഗവണ്മെൻറ പ്രചരണജോലി ചെയ്യുവരുന്നതായി അറിയാമോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: Yes.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI: അതുപോലെ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറ വല്ലതും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: Not at present.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI: അങ്ങിനെ എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യേണ്ടതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ

MR. K. GEORGE: The matter is receiving consideration.

Circumstances under which Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai's application for Kuthakapattom lease was allowed.

37. *MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Survey No 5473, a tank bed in A Division, Neendakara pakuthi, was proclaimed for sale before receipt of Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai's application for grant of Kuthakapattom;

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(*b*) how many times this tank-bed was proclaimed for sale;

(*c*) what the highest bid on each of those occasions was;

(*d*) whether the bidders deposited the amounts as required by the rules;

(*e*) whether these deposits were returned to the bidders before the lease was granted, on account of the sale proceeds being inadequate;

(*f*) whether any other circumstances stood in the way of the confirmation of these sales;

(*g*) whether they called for the opinion of the Land Revenue Commissioner or the Dewan Peishkar or the Tahsildar about the grant of the Kuthakapattom to Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai and whether their opinions were favourable to the same;

(*h*) whether they will lay a copy of their opinions on the table; and

(*i*) if no such opinion was received, why they did not invite the opinion of these officers?

MR. K. GEORGE: (*a*) Yes. An extent of 27 acres and 36½ cents out of the tank-bed.

(*b*) Three times.

(*c*) In the 1st auction—Rs. 45,100

In the 2nd auction--Rs. 29,320

In the 3rd auction—Rs. 25,180. This was the bid for 6 blocks, there being no bidders for the 7th block. The extent of 27 acres and 36½ cents proclaimed for sale was split up into 7 blocks, and each block was put up to auction separately.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) There were some irregularities in the conduct of the 1st two auction sales, which were therefore set aside by the Land Revenue Commissioner. The third auction was not confirmed in view of the low bids offered.

(*g*) No.

(*h*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*g*).

(*i*) The Government did not consider it necessary.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: May I know from the member what the irregularities were with respect to the first auction in which the property was sold for Rs. 45,000?

PRESIDENT: That is answered in part (*f*).

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: May I know whether the third bid was confirmed on account of the low price?

PRESIDENT. That also has been answered already.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know who ordered the land in question being given on Kuthakapattom?

MR. K. GEORGE: Government.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know who is the authority, in ordinary cases, to give such lands on Kuthakapattom and to decide whether such lands should be given on Kuthakapattom or not?

PRESIDENT: Will the member please define what he means by the word 'ordinary'?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: I want to know who, according to the Regulations and Rules regarding the working of the Land Revenue Department, is the authority competent to deal with such questions as lands being given on Kuthakapattom?

MR. K. GEORGE: Ordinary cases of Kuthakapattom are dealt with and disposed of by the officers of the department. Important cases like the one now in question go up to Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: What are the special features in this case which make it important enough to be disposed of only by Government and not by the officers of the department who are empowered to deal with such cases?

MR. K. GEORGE: Government received a petition, an application from the lessee.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Am I to understand that applications to Government, by lessees, would divest Tahsildars and Dewan Peishkars of their powers to deal with such cases?

MR. K. GEORGE: The powers of these officers are always subject to the powers of Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know whether the Government can supersede the authority of these officers without consulting them?

MR. K. GEORGE: Certainly they can.

PRESIDENT: It is the *prerogative* of Government, as they call it.

Certain details re: the Kuthakapattom lease granted to Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai.

38. *MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount of the Kuthakapattom lease fixed on Survey No. 5473, a tank-bed in A Division, Neendakara pakuthi, granted to Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai;

(*b*) the extent and the nature of the said survey number and the nature of the cultivation made thereon after the grant of the lease, and the amount of the annual yield that the lessee now gets therefrom;

(*c*) whether the lessee is using Kodayar water for cultivation and whether the lease imposes the water cess on this leasehold;

(*d*) under what head of receipt of the Kodayar Project the above lease amount is credited;

(*e*) if the water cess is not imposed on the abovesaid land and the lease amount is not credited under the Kodayar Project item, whether it is not against the declared policy of Government;

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